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mond, Va., as second-class matter
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WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24, 1914.

A great university in or near Rich-
mond should appeal to the men who
are advertising Richmond.

No Quorum!

Is there any valid excuse for the
absence of a quorum of the Board
of Aldermen called into session to
consider important questions and
having before it a matter which de-
mands immediate consideration?

The Times-Dispatch is not disposed
to carp at busy men who sometimes
find it most inconvenient to attend
a meeting which can be postponed
without injury to the city. But this
is not one of those instances. Delay
may, and probably will, work injury.

Paradoxically Perkins can check
Amos by checking Roosevelt's cam-
paign fund.

The Editors of Virginia.

Gathered at Alexandria this week
are men who are serving Virginia
in a high capacity. The work of
each individual may be humble and
is seldom recorded in the public
prints over which they have control,
but it is real and lasting neverthe-
less. The editors of Virginia are men
who are honestly striving to build
up their communities and their State
and finding their reward in work
well done, or in work done the best
they know how to do it. If that is
not their reward they have none; if
it is not sufficient, they would do
well to get out.

"Villains have own way," says headline.
In one respect Villains seem to
resemble each other very much.

Let's Get This.

Virginia has a splendid oppor-
tunity to secure within its borders
the great Methodist University to be
established east of the Mississippi at
a cost of about \$5,000,000.

This is the opinion expressed by
Bishop Collins Denny. Let's make
the possibility a certainty. Let's get
that university.

The way to do it is to organize.
Methodist ministers of Virginia, ac-
tively in co-operation with an organiza-
tion of business men, ready to help
with time, labor and funds, can do
the work if the work is begun now.
Here is a chance for the Richmond
Chamber of Commerce "to start something."

It begins to look as if Wilson is to
be the goat for all the blunders of pre-
ceding Republican administrations.

Why Give Up Hope Yet?

Arbitrarily declaring that further
mediation is useless, the Philadel-
phia Public Ledger, which urged
consultation with South America
only to oppose it when a Democratic
administration adopted the expedi-
ent, announces our present duty as
being to "select some strong and ef-
ficient neutral from among the Mex-
icans and put him in the capital and
sustain him there." This means in-
tervention, which means war. Waiv-
ing the rather important considera-
tion of the difficulty, if not impos-
sibility, of finding "a strong and ef-
ficient Mexican" who has been neutral,
would not further efforts toward
peaceful settlement be worth while?

It has been a week since the Public
Ledger made this announcement and
still there is peace. Why not let
mediation continue, and in the mean-
time try to find a strong and ef-
ficient man acceptable to the Consti-
tutionalists, regardless of what fac-
tion he belongs to? In a short while
what Huerta thinks of it will be of
no more importance than what Diaz
thinks of it, for, if lucky, Huerta
will be hobnobbing with the old dic-
tator somewhere in Europe.

The country does need Teddy. Didn't
he save it from the G. O. P. by orga-
nizing the Bull Moose party?

"Sample Americans."

Always felicitous in phrase, Wood-
row Wilson spoke aptly when, ad-
dressing the graduates at the Naval
Academy at Annapolis recently, he
told them they should view their
duties not as trained and profes-
sional aggressors, but as lying in the
direction of "sample Americans."

Elaborating his ideas, the President
said:

It ought to be one of your
thoughts all the time that you are
sample Americans, not merely
sample navy men; not merely sam-
ple soldiers, and that you have the
point of view of America with re-
gard to her navy and her army,
that she is using them as the in-
struments of civilization, not as the
instruments of aggression. The
idea of America is to serve hu-
manity, and every time you let
the Stars and Stripes free to the
wind you ought to realize that you
are not on an errand of con-
quest, but on an errand of service.

This is a new doctrine to preach
to the fighting men of any nation.
It is likely that the Kaiser, with all
of his fondness for homilies; George

of England, and the President of
France have not approximated this
theory of service first and war after-
ward. Viewed from this standpoint,
the mischievous lure of wholesale
butchery is apt to diminish its charm
and the better element of citizenship
in our sailors find an opportunity for
assertion.

"Sample Americans!" That lowly
phrase covers a world of inspiration.
The men to whom it is spoken should
henceforth find themselves con-
fronted with a unique incentive to
duty, an errand of service and of
practical conquest, rather than of
the sort of triumph that expresses
itself in seas running with blood and
in the creation of a new pension
list.

If ever the world materializes the
era of disarmament, now one of the
dreams of the idealist, it will be
through the realization of the idea
set forth by President Wilson—that
of service as against butchery, sturdy
and constructive citizenship, as
against empty glory of militarism.

The President, in his brief address,
did the navy a service. His formula
of patriotism might well be extended
to the army and, as well, to all Amer-
icans whose lines are cast in foreign
places.

The right of petition exists, yes, but
still, the people have a right to know
who the petitioners are—and why.

Morals and the Movies.

More than 5,000,000 admissions
were paid at the doors of more than
20,000 moving picture theatres last
year.

Given these figures, it is easy to
realize the vast power for good or
for evil exercised by moving picture
exhibitions. The psychological ef-
fect of pictures has, of course, long
been understood, and it was only
necessary for the attendance upon
the performances to reach a certain
stage for the cry for regulation to be
raised, taken up and put into effect.

The need of it was beyond dispute;
the only question was as to the
methods and manner of regulation.

That this regulation has not been
always along right lines was called
sharply to the attention of the coun-
try a few days ago, when William A.
Pinkerton, the great detective, de-
clared that the law should prohibit
pictures which make heroes and
martyrs of "crooks," and "crooks"

of the defenders of the law.

The effect of such delineation is
obvious. Adolescent youths have
created gradually within their minds
a sympathy for crime and criminals,
and disrespect, and even contempt
and hatred, for law and its officers.

There need be no surprise if one of
these, a constant attendant upon the
movies, should some day become a
criminal. The sight of a man stab-
bing another or of that same man
meeting the just penalty of his crime
might have some brutalizing effects,
but it would scarcely cultivate in the
youth a desire to go and do likewise.

But there are other pictures no
less evil in their tendencies. For
some strange reason marital infidel-
ity is regarded as a joke when
narrated in fiction or displayed on a
screen, and many of the so-called
"comedy pictures" are of this charac-
ter. The man who outwits a
trusting wife, and giving her a Judas
kiss, goes out to practice his infidel-
ity, always gets a laugh, while no
sympathy is wasted upon the woman.

Less frequently, but fre-
quently enough, the situation is re-
versed; the woman is unfaithful and
to be applauded, while the man be-
comes the butt of ribald laughter.

Again the effect is obvious. Im-
pressionable youth is subtly taught
that there is derision for marital fel-
icity and virtue; applause for infidel-
ity. Again, it is no surprise if
boys and girls feasting constantly
upon such pictures should gradually
lose respect for marriage and virtue.

There may be evil effect attendant
upon witnessing scenes of crime and
debauchery, but it is not a title of
that resulting from constant view-
ing of criminals rewarded and
debauchees made smart men of the
world. It is not necessary for the
picture to teach a moral, but it is of
great importance that it should not
show that the wages of sin is happi-
ness.

The calamity howlers are acting as
if every grain of that 500,000,000 wheat
crop stuck in their craws.

Why the Applause?

The Washington Post publishes
editorially a long panegyric of the
United States Senate. Inasmuch as
the Senate passed a tariff bill con-
demned by the Post, a currency bill
it did not wholly approve, repealed
an act exempting American coast-
wise vessels from the payment of
Panama Canal tolls over its violent
and screeching protest, and gives
every indication of remaining in ses-
sion against the expressed will of
the same newspaper, one seeks in
vain for the why of it. Unless it is
the extended oratory and inextinguish-
able dilatory methods of the Senate that
rejoices the heart of the Post?

Apologies of nothing, an exchange
quotes the saying of Plautus: "It is well
for one to know more than he says."
It being a manifest impossibility for
any mere human to know more than
some of those windjamming Senators
are saying, the only expedient left
them is to say less than they know.
Then Congress could adjourn.

"For many years Baltimore tried
good intentions as paving material,"
says the Baltimore American. Thought
good intentions were used to pave the
road to it, not its main street.

Meanwhile, where is the June bride-
groom? queries the Duluth Herald.
Where he has been away been—among
the "also presents."

If the Colonel's hat has increased
with the size of his head it's too big
now to cast into any but a presiden-
tial ring.

Wayside Chats With Old Virginia Editors

"A woman says a man must marry
in order to attain perfection," reports
the Emporia Independent. Now isn't
that just like a woman, telling a man
that, when whether he shall marry or
not rests entirely with her?

"The Turkish bath is a lazy man's
bath," says bath expert," reports
the Harrisonburg News-Record, which
comments thusly: "That may be, but
we believe many men have found it
pretty strenuous exercise." We leave
it to the editors assembled at Alexan-
dria if they do not have the same
suspicion upon reading that remark
that we have formed.

"The Times-Dispatch, of Richmond,
complains bitterly of the nagging of
President Wilson by his opponents,"
says the Newport News. Evidently
our remarks about the methods em-
ployed to block every legislative move
made by Congress. There is no new
thing in this," says the Times-Herald.
President Wilson's experience is the
experience of every man who has filled
the position of President. No Presi-
dent should be more alive to criticism
and capacious opposition than Jefferson
and none, perhaps got more of both.
Jefferson is reported to have said that
columns of praise did not compensate
him for a paragraph of criticism, or
words to that effect. President Wilson
seems to be equally sensitive. But
holders of public office should have
thicker skins. Politics is war, and they
who go to war must be prepared for
bullets and sword thrusts. But it
was not so much against criticism of
Wilson that we complained or even
most criticism of the President, as
against the use of every method
of obstruction to defeat legislation
in the interest of the people. We do
not care how much criticism Wilson
receives, but we do care that he be
unjust and as vicious as we can be
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make merry at the expense of the
Westmoreland Club. "From the classic
shades of the well-curled home of
the Westmoreland Club," it says, "I
came a quiet, but heartily well set
up by the many members who con-
templated taking part in the annual
Fourth of July outing of the club to
the White Sulphur Springs. The White
Sulphur is in West Virginia. West Vir-
ginia goes dry on July 1. There are
walks."

The news item of the matter com-
ing out of Richmond explains with
great care that the drinking of strong
liquors has little bearing on the out-
ing, and the outing train could
be run just as well as before, and
it would make no difference. But the
members are convinced that the Old
Virginia would not look the same with-
out a julep, and the Fourth of July is
a day on which the throat gets pow-
erful dry.

"In years gone by the annual out-
ing of the club has been a feature that
the members have looked forward to.
Everybody who could go went, and a
pleasant time was had by all." Now
the club will have to go to Old Point
Comfort, where the julep is large,
strained and the highway is full of
trucks.

"But it is said that, because of West
Virginia's statutes, the White Sulphur
club is deprived of the Fourth of July be-
cause of the antics of the disunited,
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Voice of the People

Care of Washington Monument.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch:
Sir,—Recently, while on a brief visit
to your wide-awake city, I noticed that
the Washington Monument in Capitol
Square was in such a neglected con-
dition that the inspiration that ought to
be enshrined in the heart of every
Virginia citizen, noblest son
of the Commonwealth, was being de-
stroyed by the neglect of the city of
Washington.

I am sure that every stranger or citi-
zen of our common country who sees
this magnificent work of the highest
type of art would be glad to make a
small silver offering to keep the monu-
ment in the best possible condition.

If the monument is not now cared
for by the State, allow me to suggest
that a shotted safe be conveniently
placed at its base, wherein such offer-
ings could be deposited for the use of
the monument fund. The safe should
include the pay in part of some crutch-
bearing ex-Confederate or Union soldier
as caretaker of the monument.

A custodian could point out and
explain the general run of the monu-
ment, and the history of the heroes who fought
in the history of the heroes who fought
a successful fight for constitutional
liberty, when it came to the point of
death.

WILLIAM M. KIRBY,
Washington, D.C., June 13, 1914.

Cruelty to Children.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch:
Sir,—There ought to be a society for
prevention of cruelty to children in
Richmond. It is a reflection on the fair
name and reputation of this, the capital
city of Virginia.

There are people who only know the
need of it, if they only could see the
inhuman treatment given children by
parents and others having charge of
children. There would be an uprising
of the people.

Every city nearly in the land has a
S. P. C. C. Sometimes the work is com-
bined with the Society for Prevention
of Cruelty to Animals, and is called a
Humane Society.

In this connection it occurs to me
that children ought to be organized
into bands of mercy, a very potential
power of raising these young people to
respect the feelings of the weak and
creature. No, the schools do not teach
mercy, as perhaps the reader is ready
to exclaim. Are there any interested
in saying that Mr. Kirby's idea is
midst? If so, let's see who will start
the movement by calling a meeting
of all interested. Too busy, you are
going to say; but that is no excuse
for inaction. Try and try and try
your neighbor interested, and soon the
good work will be under way.

Richmond, June 22, 1914.

Mr. Munford's Book Required.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch:
Sir,—In your editorial of last Sunday
in reference to the use of books in the
public schools, you fell into the error
of saying that Mr. Munford's "Virginia's
Attitude Toward Slavery
and Secession" is on the supplementary
list of the State Board of Education.

The book is on the required parallel
list, but the supplementary list is not
optional, but required. Those
teachers of four-year high schools who
do not use it in the last year are not
following instructions. S. Y. Z.
Richmond, Va., June 22, 1914.

What Was News
Fifty Years Ago

From the Richmond Dispatch, June 24, 1864.

The following dispatch from General
Lee contains the glorious news of the
repulse of the enemy received on Wed-
nesday night:

Headquarters Army of Northern
Virginia, June 22, 1864.

Hon. James A. Seddon, Secretary of
War:

Sir,—Since last Friday there has
been skirmishing along the lines in
front of Bermuda Hundred and around
the city of Petersburg. The Federal army ap-
pears to be concentrated at these two
places and is strongly entrenched.

Yesterday a movement of infantry,
cavalry and artillery was made to-
ward the right of the Federal forces and
Petersburg in the direction of the Western
Railroad. The enemy was driven back
and his infantry is reported to have
been advanced upon a route
further removed from our position.

The enemy's infantry was attacked
this afternoon on the west side of
the Jerusalem Plank Road and driven
back. His first line of works is now
second on that road by General Mac-
dowell with a part of his division.

About 1,500 prisoners four pieces of
artillery, eight standards of colors and
a large number of small arms were
captured.

Very respectfully, etc.,
R. E. LEE, General.

All accounts from Prince George
represent that the country is being
worse than secured by the enemy
and his home is visited and not an
article missed.

General Smith, of the Virginia Mil-
itary Institute, informs the Lynchburg
Virginian that all the apparatus, books,
maps, etc., belonging to the Institute
were saved while a new supply of
books is now at Wilmington, and
run the blockade. The walls of the
Institute are not much injured, and
the buildings can be restored.

Sheridan's official report of his re-
cent says that he destroyed the
Central Railroad from Trevilians to
Louisa Courthouse. He took and
brought off 270 prisoners.

At the meeting of the Common
Council yesterday Mr. Scott, for the
Committee on Finance, for the Poor,
stated that the Council had been called
together to consider a proposition
which had been tendered the commit-
tee by Thomas P. D. Ingram to furnish
the utility with a sufficient and regu-